Preface

This handbook is designed to provide an accurate, current, and authoritative summary of the principal federal and state (Florida) laws that directly or indirectly relate to agriculture. This handbook provides a basic overview of the many rights and responsibilities that farmers and farmland owners have under both federal and state laws as well as the appropriate contact information to obtain more detailed information. However, the reader should be aware that because the laws, administrative rulings, and court decisions on which this handbook is based are subject to constant revision, portions of this publication could become outdated at any time. Several details of cited laws are also left out due to space limitations.

This handbook is distributed with the understanding that the authors are not engaged in rendering legal or other professional advice, and the information contained herein should not be regarded as a substitute for professional advice. This handbook is not all inclusive in providing information to achieve compliance with the federal and state laws and regulations governing water protection. For these reasons, the use of these materials by any person constitutes an agreement to hold harmless the authors, the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, and the University of Florida for any liability claims, damages, or expenses that may be incurred by any person as a result of reference to or reliance on the information contained in this handbook.

List of Acronyms

The following is a list of acronyms for the Handbook of Florida Water Regulation (FE579 – FE617)

- ACE – United States Army Corp of Engineers
- BMP – Best Management Practices
- BRA – Florida Brownfields Redevelopment Act
- CAFO – Confined Animal Feeding Operations
- CERCLA – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (or Superfund)
- CERP – Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program
- CWA – Clean Water Act
- EAA – Everglades Agricultural Area
- ECP – Everglades Construction Project
- EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
- EPCRA – Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
- ERC – Environmental Regulation Commission
- ESA – Endangered Species Act
- FAC – Florida Administrative Code
- FAWPCA – Florida Air and Water Pollution Control Act
- FCPTF – Florida Coastal Protection Trust Fund
- FDACS – Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- FDCA – Florida Department of Community Affairs
- FDEP – Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- FDOH – Florida Department of Health
- FEFA – Florida Everglades Forever Act

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• FEPCRA – Florida Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
• FFWCC – Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
• FIFRA – Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
• FPDPCA – Florida Pollution Discharge Prevention and Control Act
• FPL – Florida Pesticide Law
• FRTFA – Florida Right-To-Farm Act
• FSHMERC – Florida State Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Commission
• FWPCA – Federal Water Pollution Control Act
• FWRA – Florida Watershed Restoration Act
• FQPA – Food Quality Protection Act
• IPM – Integrated Pest Management
• LEPC – Local Emergency Planning Committee
• LOPA – Lake Okeechobee Protection Act
• LOPP – Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan
• LOWCP – Lake Okeechobee Watershed Construction Project
• MSSW – Management and Storage of Surface Waters
• NEEPP – Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program
• NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act
• NIOSH – National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
• NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
• OAWP – Office of Agricultural Water Policy
• PIR – Project Implementation Report
• PRC – Pesticide Review Council
• RCRA – Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
• SARA – Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
• SCS – Soil Conservation Service
• SDWA – Safe Drinking Water Act
• SERC – State Emergency Response Commission
• SFWMD – South Florida Water Management District
• SQG – Small Quantity Generator
• STA – Storm water Treatment Areas
• SWCD – Soil and Water Conservation District
• SWIM – Surface Water Improvement Management
• TCNS – Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough Reservoir and Treatment Area Project
• TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Loads
• TSCA – Toxic Substances Control Act
• UIC – Underground Injection Control
• USDA – United States Department of Agriculture
• WMD – Water Management District
• WPS – Watershed Protection Section
• WQS – Water Quality Standards

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